



Stars and Bars



Sheriff Jim Frank

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Moving Forward

By Sheriff Frank

On first blush our challenge for the next couple of years seems impossible to attain. In fact, it defies logic. We need to continue to move forward while going backwards!

The budget cuts that were speculated on for many months now have definition. Adjustments made early this year were in anticipation of what was to come. We are on track to continue operation with a \$350 thousand dollar reduction in our adopted 2003 appropriation. It will be realized mostly through open positions throughout the organization.

Revenue projections for 2004 are not encouraging. We submitted an appropriation request that translates into a reduction of nearly \$680 thousand dollar over our adopted 2003 appropriation. Originally we were asked to also absorb wage increases for 2004. That would have been an additional \$595 thousand dollars. We simply could not do that without major reductions in basic services. The largest part of our reduction will again occur by holding open 7.5 positions and cuts to nearly all other areas of spending.

So where do we go from here? The County Board of Commissioners will hold a public meeting to gain citizen input into the overall county budget. The County Board will then set the levy amount for 2004. Factoring in inflation, Washington County will be facing a \$10 million dollar reduction from state revenue sharing of which only \$2 million dollars can be levied back. That means county spending must be reduced by \$8 million dollars. It will be accomplished by holding open or reducing the workforce by more than 50 people. There will be also a number of program and spending cuts countywide.

Our county will continue to grow and we will need to

meet the associated needs. That means long term goals and planning. It is too late to form a fire department when the house is on fire. History documents the ups and downs of the economy. History also documents progress and growth. We must focus on today and tomorrow and not yesterday.

We are currently faced with a downturn. We must plan for the upswing. It will take some work. We must look for better ways to provide service. That can be done through technology, people power, and new ideas. We can't stand still and wait.

We are an exceptional organization and one that can and will rise to these challenges. Thank you for your professionalism, hard work and support in these uncertain times. Keep focused on the future.

Washington County Jail Receives Perfect Inspection Report

By John Haugen

Sheriff Jim Frank and the Washington County Board of Commissioners recently received the results of the Minnesota Department of Corrections 2003 inspection of the Washington County Jail. The Enforcement and Inspection Unit of the Department of Corrections reported 100% compliance by the Washington County Jail in all areas of operation.

Jails must demonstrate compliance with 112 mandatory and 99 essential rules to receive a 100% score. A perfect inspection result is very difficult to attain and can only be achieved through the dedication and commitment of jail staff. This year's inspection result continues the string of perfect 100% compliance ratings that the Washington County Jail has received for every inspection since 1995.

2003 WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR

By Jill Strong

The 132nd Washington County Fair was held on Wednesday, July 30, 2003 through Sunday, August 3, 2003. The Washington County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post manned the Speed Pitch Booth, and Correctional Officers provided the fingerprint cards that have been popular with families who have young children. The Special Operations/Command Post Trailer had pictures displayed of some of the duties and functions of the Washington County Sheriff's Office. The Mounted Patrol could be seen throughout the fairgrounds and the Sheriff's Office Canine Unit, which held demonstrations twice daily, is always a big attraction at the fair.



Jeff Boyden fingerprinting at the fair.



Rich Mandell fingerprinting at the fair.



Kirby Livingston and K-9 partner Jax put on a demonstration at the fair.



The Sheriff's Office Explorers ran a Speed Pitch Booth to raise money for their post.

County Auction

By Michelle Ritzer

This year the annual County auction was held on Saturday, June 21st, 2003. The Washington County Sheriff's Office auctioned fourteen (14) forfeited and abandoned units for a total of \$5,766.90 before disbursement to other departments and agencies. We have also transported forfeiture vehicles to other auctions throughout the year to keep the units being held for forfeiture to a minimum.

Plans are already being made for next years auction so be sure to mark your calendar. Next years auction is scheduled for June 12th, 2004.

Patrol Division News

By Commander Tim Tuthill

During the past few months, the Patrol Division initiated an accident reduction project to reduce the incidents of traffic accidents within Washington County.

The project deploys sporadic traffic enforcement saturations upon roadways having the highest incidents of traffic accidents and have included:

Hwy 61 and Hwy 10, Denmark Township
Hwy 97 and Hwy 95, New Scandia Township
Hwy 61 and 170th St., City of Hugo
Co. Rd 12 and Jamaca, Grant Township
Co. Rd 15 and Hwy 96, Grant Township

There have been approximately 130 citations and 25 warning tickets issued during this effort.

The County Fair has come and gone. This year, as in years past, the Sheriff's Office has had a display at the fairgrounds. Along with the display, our K-9 deputies and their partners put on demonstrations for the public twice daily. During the demonstrations, deputies show the public how skilled the dogs are at assisting with arrest and containment of suspects, searches, agility and other skills.

Speaking of K-9's, all K-9 deputies participated in state K-9 trials in St. Cloud and Alexandria. All Deputies must show that they and their partners meet the standards for this demanding assignment.

All patrol deputies will be attending MIMS (Minnesota Incident Management Systems) training during July, August, September and October. This class is part of a Homeland Security Grant and is designed to create consistency in incident command when several agencies are required to respond to a single incident.

Finally, I am pleased to welcome Keith Land and Bjorn Erickson to the Patrol Division. Keith started his field training on August 4 and comes to the division after working in the jail for over 5 years. Bjorn started his field training on August 18 and comes to the department after working as a police officer in Clearbrook, MN. The training period will last 14 to 16 weeks, after which time they will be assigned a regular patrol shift. Welcome Keith and Bjorn.

SERVICE AGREEMENT

By Commander Scott Malinosky

As we come to the end of another summer, traditionally one of the busiest seasons for the Sheriff's Office, I am finding that I am gaining a new perspective of an Office where I have been employed for the past 25 years. It seems remarkable that an Office who employs so many people, who must contend with so many "social problems," has so few complaints over the manner in which we contend with those problems. It seems remarkable, until you look closer at the individuals who make up our Office.

Terms such as "public servant" or "civil servant," commonplace in the past, these days seem to have been replaced with the less descriptive, more banal connotation of "government worker." Perhaps "servant" is the politically incorrect label to wear in this day and age. "Servant" does, however, better exemplify the ideals behind a career of public service. Webster's Dictionary provides one definition of "servant" as a person devoted to another or a cause. Clearly, we are an organization made up primarily of "servants" devoted to serving the public.

The more committed to service we are, the fewer complaints we will receive. Certainly, there will always be the occasional malicious complaint, so designed as to deflect and obscure responsibility, but those complaints wither quickly when exposed to the light of scrutiny. When we are committed to service, we take the focus off of ourselves and place it where it belongs; on those we are serving and by so doing, fulfilling our duty. So keep serving with excellence and be proud of the role of a public servant.

Special Services News

By Commander Mike Johnson

Our state legislative change in the permit to carry law impacted Special Services significantly. The new law was enacted requiring the Sheriff to issue permits to qualified applicants in their counties. We were not given much time to work out a process for the new law before it became effective.

Special Services is taking applications from residents of Washington County. We are required by law to complete a comprehensive criminal history inquiry, a records check with all jurisdictions the applicant has resided in, and a check of court commitments for disqualifying mental and chemical reasons within thirty days of the application. If we do not complete the process in that amount of time, the permit is issued in default. We also are required to confirm that the applicant has completed a training course defined by the statute. The new law requires that we use a standard application and that we issue on a state developed permit form. The permits are uniform in design. The law requires that the State develop a database that will allow officers to confirm the validity of a permit at anytime. We are entering all of our permits into a BCA database that we believe will become the one we use to confirm permits. There are several provisions in the new law that restrict where firearms may be carried. Schools and Day Care Centers are specifically defined as restricted in the new law. Owners may post business property if they wish to restrict the carrying of firearms. Judicial Order restricts Washington County Courts. The Government Center has been determined to be restricted since it is attached to the courts.

The new law, application forms, and related links to State Departments are posted on our web site. Our Office fielded a large number of questions from residents about the new law shortly after it was enacted. Many of the questions were answered by referring the resident to the posted web site information.

We have accepted 556 applications and issued 545 permits to date.

Investigation News

By Commander Don McGlothlin

As everyone is aware, the last week of May produced the year's most violent crimes in our area; the shooting of Julie Bever in an attempt to car jack her vehicle. While a passerby was assisting her, the same shooter was successful in carjacking the Good Samaritan's vehicle. The next day that vehicle was used in a successful armored car robbery in Hudson, Wisconsin.

Over the last 2 months, the Investigative Division with the help of the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, have tracked down over 50 different phone tips and have interviewed over 50 individuals during the course of the investigation. Through those interviews we have also been successful in arresting 6 different people on unrelated charges.

Although we have not been able up to this point to bring the investigation to a successful conclusion, we continue to work with all of our cooperating agencies in a task force type group to bring this case to that successful conclusion.

Sgt. Barb Reid Accepts New Position

By Christina Richert

It is with sad hearts, but many well wishes, that the Washington County Jail loses Barb Reid to Dunn County, Wisconsin. Sgt. Reid's last day was August 22, 2003. She has accepted a position to become the new Jail Administrator for the Dunn County Jail.

Sgt. Reid started at the Washington County Jail on November 2, 1992 as part of the first hiring class for the new jail. Quickly becoming an FTO in 1993, Barb has also been actively involved in policy revision. In addition, she has contributed as a member of the jail's Emergency Response Team and acted as a primary CPR instructor for the Sheriff's Office. Sgt Reid was promoted to sergeant in February of 2001 and began her rotation as Transport Sergeant in Jail Administration in September of 2002.



As Sgt. Reid looks back at her time here, she will miss the people the most. She has gained many valuable friendships and admires both the professionalism and structured environment the County provides. However, she is looking forward to the challenge of her new position. The Dunn County Jail is located in Menomonie, Wisconsin and was opened in 1999 with a 156-bed capacity. It is Sgt. Reid's goal to develop the facility into one as professional and smoothly run as ours.

We wish Sgt. Reid good luck as she embarks on her new adventure. Her first day as Jail Administrator was August 25, 2003.

JAIL TRAINING

By Jail Commander Chuck Yetter

Training for custody staff is divided into two main areas consisting of mandatory and non-mandatory training topics. Goals developed for jail custody staff training are:

- Meet or exceed all Department of Corrections required mandatory training for all jail staff,
- Schedule non-mandatory training opportunities with topics of interest to jail staff, and
- Limit the use of overtime as much as possible when scheduling mandatory training. Overtime will not be authorized for non-mandatory training unless it is deemed in the best interest of the Sheriff's Office.

While the current Department of Corrections training requirement is sixteen hours per jail staff per year, the jail's training plan attempts to provide a minimum of forty hours of training for each correctional officer. The main training component the jail uses is in-service training facilitated by correctional staff instructors. In-service training consists of subjects (mandatory and non-mandatory) relating to corrections. This training method allows 6-12 staff to attend in-service training on each scheduled training date.

The Field Training Officer (FTO) process lasts anywhere from one to two months in length. FTO's work with newly hired correctional officers to assure that they are capable of performing all required duties before they work a post on their own. As new officers are trained, they sign off on procedures in their FTO manual as they gain competence. Sergeants talk with the new staff frequently to gauge their progress.

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) training was the most recent series of training that was facilitated for correctional staff. Sergeant Randy Zenner, who is also an Engineer with the St. Paul Park Fire Department, arranged for the use of the "Smoke House" in St. Paul Park that allows staff to experience conditions similar to what would be faced with a real fire.



Commander Yetter and COII Troy Jorgenson and Sgt. Randy Zenner (Entering the Smoke House)



Chief Deputy Pott and Sheriff Frank talked to the staff after the smoke house training



Correctional Officer Gary Randall

Volunteer Services News

By Sgt Cheri Dexter

The Washington County Sheriff's Office had its Reserve Graduation on Wednesday, May 21st. The Reserves completed a 15-week academy class to become Reserves with our department. They are currently putting in many hours on water and park patrols.

New Reserve Officers are:

Joan Bodey 1105
John Grimm 1109
Ty Jacobson 1114
Bee Lee 1134
James Russell 1136
Stephen Smitley 1140

The Law Enforcement Torch run was held June 19th. The run is a fundraiser for the Minnesota Special Olympics program. Any proceeds raised by our department go to athletes in our area. The run covered Co Rd 8 from the Anoka County Line to Hwy 61 and south from that point. Runners also covered White Bear Lake. The run pace was about a 10-minute mile. This years runners were:

Rebekah Lease
Angela Hanson
Joanne Sellner
Brian Land
Keith Land
Justin Kaeding
Cheri Dexter
Jeff Marose

Thank you to everyone who participated in this great cause for the Special Olympics.

Explorer Fund Raiser

By Sgt Cheri Dexter

The Washington County Explorer Post will be selling Beanie type bears as a fund-raiser for their National Explorer Competition, which will be held next year in Atlanta, GA. The Post is hoping to send 8 Explorers to represent Washington County and they need to raise \$8,800 to attend. The Explorers attended the National competition in 2002 and took 2nd place in Crime Prevention and 4th place in the Crime Scene competition.

The bears cost \$10 each and are in stock. The bears are dark brown in color and have the sheriff's office badge on the front. They will be on display in the main lobby of the Law Enforcement Center. If you are interested in purchasing a bear, call Sgt. Cheri Dexter at X7855.



National Crime Prevention Week

By Michael Bonn

August 3rd - 9th was National Crime Prevention week. The goal of National Crime prevention week is for the public to get to know their local law enforcement as well as their neighbors. Throw in some crime prevention education and a little fun and you have reached the goal. The highlight of the week is National Night Out which was on August 5th. This night was celebrated in many places around Washington County with many neighborhood groups having their own small get-together. The Sheriff's Office was represented at many of these. This was a great chance for our deputies to meet the families and friends in many of the areas they work. Some of the lucky groups were able to see Terry Hyde and his K-9 partner Thor conduct a K-9 Demonstration. Terry and Thor attended almost 10 National Night Out get-togethers.

One of Washington County's largest National Night Out Celebrations was held in Lake St.Croix Beach and was attended by approximately 300 residents. There was live music, ice cream, tacos, a K-9 demo as well as some kids games. Other sites to see were educational booths from the Sheriff's Office, Xcel Energy, The Historical Society and also Washington County Recycling Program. According to most in attendance, the night was a great success and all are looking forward to next year.

A special thanks to those from the Sheriff's Office who took time out of their busy schedules to help out and make this year's National Night Out the best yet.

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